WASHINGTON

· IMPORTANT PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

Passage of the Alabama Reconst 1ction Bill in the House.

The Rejected Constitution Declared Provisional.

The Deadlock on the Whiskey Tax in the Manufacturers' Bill.

General Hancock Assigned to the Command of the Military Division of the Atlantic.

The Impeachment Managers and the President's Counsel Ready for the Trial.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1868. General Hancock Assigned to the Comman of the New Department-The Radicals Ex-

The President last night directed General Grant to issue an order relieving Major General W. G. Han-cock from the command of the Fifth Military District and assigning him to the cammand of the Military Division of the Atlantic, with headquarters at Washartment this morning by General Grant, though partment this morning by General Grant, though whether for the purpose of having it printed and regularly published by the Acting Adjutant General is not definitely known. The order was taken to Mr. Stanton, however, when it reached the Department long time in consultation with the Secretary.

The action of the President in this matter has

called in question his right to establish the district. Senator Edmunds introduced a resolution to-day calling for information on this subject. The resc lution requires the President to inform the Senate i a new military department had been created since of this resolution is to get the matter of the new de partment before Congress. It is the opinion of a large number of members in both houses that the ident had no authority to create a new military tepartment, that duty belonging to Congress.

The Impeachment Managers and Mr. John-son's Counsel Ready for Trial.

The Board of Managers to conduct the impeach-ment on the part of the House have all their arrangements completed for the trial, which begins on Mondelay, as it is understood the President's counsel do not propose to ask for more time. Should the trial as the court is in session, proceed to open the case in behalf of the Managers. He has of his speech, and for the last few days he as not been in his seat in the House. His speech will occupy about five hours in delivery. It is expected, however, that he will get through with it on Monday. The counsel for the President are also ready for the trial. They are quite confident of being able to make a strong case for their client. The Alabama Election-Report of General

Meade.

The Secretary of War sent to the House to-day, in nce with a resolution of that body, the official report of Major General Meade to General Grant, dated Atlanta, March 23, giving the following analysis of the returns of the vote in Alabama at the elec tion submitting to the registered voters the consti-tution framed by the Convention of that State:—

Total vote east for the constitution, 70,812; against, 1,005; total at the election, 71,817. Of that vote there 2 921. Of the colored vote, for the constitution, 62,089 against, 105; white, 5,802 for, 900 against. A com parison of the vote cast in October last for the Con vention with the present election shows the white vote for the Convention 18,553; white vote for consti tution, 5,802; loss on constitution, 12,751; colored vote for the Convention, 71,930; for the constitution, 22,392.

By a careful examination of the official returns at General Meade's headquarters the registration lists show prior to the recent revision in the number of registered voters in the State, 166,685, the last revision lds 3,946; total registration, 170,631. In comparing the vote cast at the election with the registered vote, General Meade says he has deemed it no more than just to deduct the registered vote in such counties as have been rejected in the election. It will be seen that in two counties (Dale and Henry) no election was held, that in Lowndes the ballot boxes stolen, and in Sumter only a partial election was held, and the vote rejected by the registrars on the ground of illegality. The registered vote of all four of these counties should be deducted from the registration, and the partial vote in Sumter thrown out. Adopting this basis, the total registration, as above, is 170,631; less the registration of four counties, 13,686. Registration in counties where votes were cast, 156,945; one-half the amount required for ratification was 78,473. Now the total vote at the election was 71,817. Deducting the vote in Sumter rejected, 1.458, the actual vote east in the eleection was 70,359, and the constitution fails of ratification by 8,114; that is to say, the whole vote cast in these counties where the election was held falls short of one-half of the registered voters in these counties by 8,114, and the constitution therefore under the law requiring one-half the registered

Meade says in conclusion:—

The constitution failing of ratification the measures to be adopted become questions of importance. I have deemed it my duty to turn over to the President of the Convention the returns of the election-for members of Congress and State and county officers, but I have not authorized the issue of certificates of election until the questions connected with the constitution are definitely settled. I have received and transmit herewith a letter from several members of the republican organization in Alabama urging a recommendation on my part of immediate admission of the State by Congress, maintaining that the recent election, when properly explained, will show a majority of the registered votes as being in favor of the measure. I regret extremely that it is not in my power to coincide with these gentlemen, and cannot concur with them in their views. Acknowledging the importance of the State being at the earliest moment restored to her proper relations in the Union, I cannot but look on the result of the recent election as an expression of opinion that the registered voters do not desire to be restored under the constitution submitted to them, and in view of the recent act of Congress giving ratification to a majority of the votes cast, I would prefer seeing the Convention reassembled for a revision of the constitution, and the revised constitution, more liberal in lits terms and confined to the requirements of the revised constitution, more liberal in lits terms and confined to the requirements of the reconstruction laws would in Alabama—as I have reason to expect it will in Georgia and Florida—meet with the approval of the majority of the registered voters, and I beg leave to call your attention to the difficulty of carrying on a government in a State where so small a proportion of those qualified to take part in the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the governing class a more acceptable constitution should be presented to them f

case, in order to relieve the committee from their

The Utah Contested Election Case. Committee on Elections has placed the Utah sted election case in the hands of Mr. Chanler, one of its members, to prepare a report in view of all the facts. The friends of Mr. Hooper say that, although the allegation was made before the comnittee, no proof was produced to show that he has taken an oath as a member of the Order of Melchise-dec, in hostility to the government of the United

The fractional currency received from the Printing Bureau for the week ending to-day amounted to \$413,500. The amount shipped during the same The amount shipped during the same

Total shipment of notes..... The Treasurer of the United States holds in trus

as security for national banking associations the fol

Ald Asked for the North Pacific Railroad. A delegation consisting of W. B. Ogden, of Chicago; Judge Rice, of Maine; the Governor of ota, and one or two gentlemen from the British provinces were before the House Com-mittee on the Pacific railroad to-day and made an argument of two hours' duration in favor of the construction of the North Pacific Railroad. They also pointed out to the committee the necessity for the three projected routes—the Northern, Middle and Southern-and gave detailed descriptions of the country through which it is proposed to run them. The argument closed with an appeal for aid from the government, so that the roads might be constructed

The Postal Convention With Hong Kong Officially Proclaimed.

An official proclamation is made of the postal con vention between the United States and the colonial

ried by the direct line of American packets plying between San Francisco and Hong Kong, via Yokoha-Measure to Reduce the Marine Corps. The House Committee on Naval Affairs have in structed their chairman to report a bill providing

for the reduction of the Marine corps and also of the force in the Engineer's department of the Navy. The Marine corps will be reduced one half its present force. The bill also makes provisions for greater efficiency in this branch of the national ser-

The Navy Department has information of the arrival at Kingston, Jamaica, of the United States steamer De Soto, Commodore Boggs commanding after a rough passage of six days from Hampton

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1868. THE ALLEGIANCE OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS. The CHAIR laid before the Senate a resolution the Legislature of Ohio asking Congress to declare that naturalized citizens owe no allegiance to foreign Powers, which was referred to the Committee or

MILWAUKEE HARBOR.

Mr. Howe, (rep.) of Wis., presented a memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of Milwaukee, Wis., praying that the money expended on the harbor be refunded, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

THE PROCEEDS OF CAPTURED AND ABANDONED PROPERTY.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep.) of Vt., from the committee of conference on a bill to cover into the Treasury the proceeds of captured and abandoned property, presented their report, which was agreed to.

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Mr. PATTERSON, (rep.) of N. H., from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported favorably a bill to incorporate the Evening Star newspaper.

Also a bill to incorporate the National Life Insurance Company.

RESOLUTIONS OF INQUIRY.

Which was adopted:—
Resolved, That the President of the funited States be requested to communicate to the Senate whether he has established or ordered the establishment of any new military department since the lat day of August, 1867, and if so what department or departments, and under what statute and other

authority?

Mr. Davis, (dem.) of Ky., offered a resolution inquiring of the Secretary of the Treasury what amount
of United States bonds is outstanding of each class,
with the rate of interest, and what cach class was
worth in gold at the time they were issued.

Mr. Sherman, (rep.) of Ohio, suggested that it
would be impossible to give that information at a
moment's notice, and the resolution was laid over.
THE BILL TO EXEMPT CERTAIN MANUFACTURES FROM
INTERNAL TAX.

moment's notice, and the resolution was laid over. THE BILL TO EXEMPT CERTAIN MANUFACTURES FROM INTERNAL TAX.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN the Senate took up the report of the committee of conference on the bill to relieve certain manufactures from internal tax. Mr. Sherman explained the amendment.

Mr. Nye, (rep.) of Nevada, again opposed the amendment for punishing whiskey frauds. He objected to the price being taken as prima facie evidence of guilt on the part of all distillers, the innocent and the guilty alike. A foreigner smuggling whiskey and selling it less than the tax could thus suspend all the distillers in the district after ten days. Distilling was a business as legitimate as leather making. The bill now proceeded upop the hypothesis that all distillers were rascals, whereas the onus of proof should be thrown on the accuser until the guilt were shown. He denied the right of Congress to stop a legitimate business without evidence. It would not withstand the scrutiny of the judiciary for one moment.

Mr. Frelinghuysen, (rep.) of N. J., said the effect of the bill would be to close up every distillery in the country, and asked if such was the intention of the committee.

Mr. Sherman said the intention of the committee was to enable the Internal Revenue Commissioner to close up every distillery in the close.

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Mr. Sherman said the intention of the committee was to enable the Internal Revenue Commissioner to close up every distillery in the cities.

Mr. Nye said the effect would be to deprive the government of any revenue whatever from whiskey, and perhaps to fill the penitentiaries with revenue officials. The remedy lay in another direction. He understood that a law was in preparation to cover the whole subject, and he submitted that it would be better to leave the matter until then, instead of establishing a system of spies upon a legitimate business. The bill was oppressive and unjust.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep.) of Vt., said not one-eighth of the whiskey paid duty, while accomplices received more than the government. It was not altogether uncalled for to suppose that all distillers were in league in the fraud. The bill, however, was too stringent. He suggested an amendment leaving it to the discretion of the internal Revenue Commissioner to close up distilleries, instead of mandatory upon him.

Mr. Sherman said it was useless to attempt another committee of conference. The bill had been faily considered.

Mr. Mongon, (rep.) of Ind., objected to the purish.

extremely that it is not in my power to coincide with these gentiemen, and cannot concur with them in their views. Acknowledging the importance of the State being at the earliest moment restored to her proper relations in the Union, I cannot but look on the result of the recent election as an expression of opinion that the registered voters do not desire to be restored under the constitution submitted to them, and in view of the recent act of Congress giving ratification to a majority of the votes cast, I would prefer seeing the Convention reassembled for a revision of the constitution, and the revised constitution submitted to the people under the new law. I am of the opinion that a revised constitution more liberal in its terms and confined to the requirements of the reconstruction laws would in Alabama—as I have reason to expect it will in Georgia and Florida—meet with the approval of the majority of the registered voters, and I beg leave to call your attention to the difficulty of carrying on a government in a State where so small a proportion of those qualified to take part in the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to insure a larger proportion of what must be the government are in favor of the organic law, and to have reasonable to the majority of the reason to seasonable to the proportion of the majority of the reason

command to make the investigations provided for in the bill. He had no sympathy with those engaged in the business. He thought it evident that it could not be carried on honestly with the present price of whiskey. Reduction of taxation might mitigate the frands somewhat. He, too, believed the present provision for additional penalties would be found impracticable. He called the attention of the chairman of the committee to the fourth section, and asked whether it did not be carried on honestly with the present provision for additional penalties would be found impracticable. He called the attention of the chairman of the committee to the fourth section, and asked whether it did not not all the wholesale manufactures above \$5,000.

Mr. Sherman said it did.

Mr. Howard, (rep.) of Mich., asked whether lumber and flour were included?

Mr. Herman replied in the affirmative. He said it includes all manufactures but butter and cheese. There was no reason why all should not pay the tax, when the production exceeded \$5,000 in value.

Mr. JOHNSON, (dem.) of Md., opposed the amendment at some length, professing himself in favor of the measure proposed by Mr. Morton, but asserting that a reduction even to one dollar would result in the cessation of frauds and the collection of a large amount of revenue.

Mr. WILLIAMS, (rep.) of Oregon, said the proposition of Mr. Morton was inconsistent. Starling out as it did by taking the ground that there were already penalties provided that were not carried out, and yet, proposing another, what proof was there that if the district attorneys made dishonest compromises with fraud they would not connive at the escape of the same men from criminal prosecution. A great outery had been raised about whiskey frauds by the very men who now, when a measure was proposed looking to their prevention, professed great sympathy for the poor distiller. He held that the true course to stop these frauds was a proceeding in rem, not a prosecution of individuals. He argued that the present provision was jus

may institute that the defective.

My. Nye said the large distilleries in cities manufactured for a foreign market, making a superior and light priced article, upon which they could afford to Mr. SHRIMAN asserted that the distilleries of Kentucky and Ohio made most of the whiskey exported—about two million gallons.

Mr. Nye repeated that there were large distilleries in New York that manufactured solely for exportation. Were they to be closed up because others committed frauds, and their stock left on their hands in order to allow the government to dispose of the whiskey on hand from seizure?

Mr. Hendricks, (dem.) of Ind., condemned the tax-as unreasonable and as being the sole cause of the frauds. A proper tax could be collected, and a tax of fifty cents would produce more revenue than one of two dollars. They should not start out with the idea that whiskey was an outlaw to be hunted down. In Indiana the legitimate production of whiskey had been almost stopped, and this measure would feel was just and felt in honor bound to pay.

Mr. Morrill, under the legitimate production of whiskey had been almost stopped, and this measure would feel was just and felt in honor bound to pay.

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Mr. Morrill, was in such form as would be approved by the was a matter that might be left to the States, he was in favor of taxing it as a luxury to the highest possible point.

Mr. SHERMAN said the only question now was whether the bill was in such form as would be approved by the people. It could not be further amended without another committee of conference. He expressed some surprise that the Senator from Vermont and others were now opposed to the section taxing wholesale manufactures.

Mr. Morrill and the ladd not been aware that lumber, breasturills, &c., were finded.

Mr. SHERMAN saide attention to the fact that it was not a t

to non-concur.

Mr. HOWARD then moved to disagree, and ask another committee of conference.

Mr. EDMUNDS said he would vote to send the matter to another committee of conference, in order to provide means for the collection of tax as effective

Mr. EMUNDS said he would vote to send the matter to another committee of conference, in order to provide means for the collection of tax as effective as possible.

Mr. Cameron, (rep.) of Pa., believed the tax could be collected, and would vote for this and every measure tending to enforce it.

Mr. Trumbull, (rep.) of III., did not believe a tax of \$2 was to be collected by inflicting extraordinary penalities. Crime could not be prevented by the extremity of the penalty.

Mr. Howard's motion was agreed to by the following vote:—

ing vote:—
YEAB—Messrs. Buckalew, Chandler, Cole, Conkling, Davis, Davon, Bdraunds, Fessenden, Hendricks, Howard, Howe, Johnson, McCreery, Morrill of Vt., Nye, Fatterson of N. H., Fatterson of Tenn., Ramsey, Tipton, Trumbull, Yan Winkle, Willey and Wilson—23.
NATS—Messrs. Cameron, Cattell. Frelingbuysen, Henderson, Morgan, Pomeroy, Sherman, Sunner and Wade—9.
Mr. Ross, who would have voted "No," was paired with Mr. Morton. Mr. Thayer, who would have voted "No." was a leap natured.

"No," was also paired.
The CHAIRMAN appointed as the new committee of conference Messrs. Sherman, Howard and Morton.
FOLITICAL DISABILITIES OF A TENNESSERAN,
Mr. TRUMBULL called up the bill to relieve the political disabilities of Mr. Roderick R. Butler, of Ten-

Mr. Buckalew, (dem.,) of Pa., took the floor in opposition, but yielded at five o'clock to a motion to adjourn, and the Senate adjourned to meet on Monday at eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WASHINGTON, March 28, 1868. DES MOINES RAPIDS CANAL SWAMP LANDS.

Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Iowa, presented the joint resolutions of the lowa Legislature in reference to the Des Molnes Rapids Canal swamp land selections. NAVAL MATTERS.

Mr. VAN HORN, (rep.) of Mo., introduced two bills

amendatory of present naval regulations. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs. Mr. Pike, (rep.) of Me., introduced a bill to equalize

amendatory of present naval regulations. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Pike, (rep.) of Me., introduced a bill to equalize the grade of the staff corps in the navy. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Rights of citizens of the United States of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Judd, (rep.) of Ill., introduced a joint resolution in reference to the rights of United States citizens. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to admit the State of Alabama to representation in Congress.

Mr. Ashley, (rep.) of Ohio, offered a substitute.

Mr. Kerr, (dem.) of Ind., addressed the House in opposition to the bill. He declared that if the State of Alabama were admitted into the Union under the law and with the shackles which the last section imposed upon her; she never could stand up in the family of republics and say that she was the equal of her sister States. She would come in with a brand of degradation and inferiority upon her, made perpetual by the vote of Congress. And yet they were told that this was to be a government republican in form. It was a government which the people of Alabama despised, which they loathed, which they rejected in every way left to them by military despotism in which to express their feelings. When Alabama was first admitted she had inscribed on her coat of arms the motto, "Younger, but equal." In that motto was expressed the law of this country—a law most important, most valuable, most vital to the essential principles of equality of State governments. But they were told that the reconstruction measures of Congress were for the better government of the rebel States. If the matter were not such a solemn one that might be received as a caricature, as a bitter and creel irony on the conduct of Congress; if it were the duty of Congress to make a constitution for Alabama, it should make and force upon Alabama the most popular instrument it would still not be a constitution republican in spirit and in

dition that they would declare, under oath, that they would not hereafter attempt to deprive the loval black men of the South of their political powers, and that was spoken of as an atrocious hardship. He looked upon it in no such light. He thought it a fevor to those white rebels that they were allowed to partake of political power at all. It would have been right and just if it had been deemed expedient to withhold absolutely from them all political power, and he could see no justice or propriety in any man charging Congress with injustice because it said to those rebels that they should not excreise political power unless they swore not to strip it from those men who were loyal during the war and to whom Congress was in honor bound to extend and perpetuate that right. To the objection that most of the Representatives elected in Alabama were not natives of that State, he reminded the House that more than half of the Representatives of indiana, were natives of other States; that of the sixteen illinois Representatives only four were born in that State; that the gentleman who made the objection (Mr. Beok) was not a native of the State of Kentucky, which he so ably represented, nor of the American continent at all, and that his other colleague on the committee (Mr. Brooks) was not a native of the State which he so ably represented. He declared that he was satisfied that the constitution of Alabama met the approval of the majority of the qualified electors of that State; and if he had not been so satisfied he would not vote for the bill.

Mr. Farnsworth, (rep.) of Ill., at half-past two moved that the thouse take a recess from half past four to seven o'clock, the vote on the bill to be taken at half-past seven. (Expressions of disapproval on both sides of the House.)

The Sprakers intimated that this was the last day for legislative action for some time.

or legislative action for some time.

Mr. Banks, (rep.) of Mass., suggested that the vote

oth sides of the House.)
The SPEAKER intimated that this was the last day

Mr. Eddress the House in opposition to the bill. He referred to the various movements of Congress against the executive and judicial departments of the government, and saw in all these movements menaces against the peace and security of the country. There had even been a proposition, he said, which had probably emanated from the usurping Secretary of War, to disband the Capitol police and to supplant that force with a military force, and if that proposition had not been noticed and defeated Congress would have been legislating under the gleam of the sword, and the Supreme Court would have been in terpreting the laws at the point of the bayonet. He declared that Alabama was a State of the Union, unless the history of the last five years were a lie; unless the war for the suppression of the rebellion was a monstrous crime; unless every man who fought in the war on either side was a conscious traitor. The bill, he said, could be justified by no man not filled with infernal hatred of our government and desiring its overthrow. It must, it could, only end in blood. No man in his senses could expect anything else. The white race is admitted to the black race. The madness or folly of Congress could never compel the white race to submit to its African domination or government. He was glad that the Reconstruction Committe and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Stevens) had had the hardihood to proclaim their revolutionary purpose, to build up a mighty nation on the ruins of the old Union. He wished the people of the States which denied universal negros suffrage to take heed and understand that no State shall ever, according to the report of the Reconstruction Committee, he admitted until the right of universal suffrage shall have been made permanent and impossible of violation. He read extracts of speeches made by Mr. Colfax and by Mr. Bilingham in the House of Representatives against enforcing the Lecompton constitution on the people of Kansas, and applied the sentiments to the case of Alabama. He asked what had cause

whom they hated sale a government of the House striven to overthrow.

Mr. Binghan, (rep.) of Ohio, addressed the House Mr. Binghan, the bill, nutting it on the statesman-

ilia advocacy of the bill, putting it on the statesmanlike axiom that "It you cannot get all you wish you
should get all you cannot." He thought, however, that
sufficient restrictions had already been imposed on
the people of Alabama, and, therefore, he was opposed to the third section. He was authorized netther
of the people to alter or amend their
constitution, subject only to the constitution of the United States, and they could
not be deprived of that right. The American
system would be a total failure if the people could
not be trusted with that right. There was no colorable excuse for attempting to engraft such a provision on the statute book. I cannot, he said, shut my
eyes to the great fact that this government was
built by white men upon ideas, if not instincts, that
were peculiar to the race, that the predominating
element is still the same, and that there is no reason
to expect that in the long future it will ever put on
the understood to disparage the political rights of any
race that fate or fortune has cast upon our shores,
whether it be the doclie African or the other and
more turbulant one that comes by ship loads,
with its old World ideas and its anti-republican instincts, in Church and State, to
fill the ranks and feet the wasting reservoir of the
so-called American democracy. We have them both
to call with, as we have had the Spaniard and the
Frenchman, and have now the Mexican and the Indian, and, under the new purchase of the President
and the Senate, if ratified nere—while God forbid—
must do thus best we can to incorporate and assimilate, if we can, these heterogeneous elements by
educating them into a love of order and a just appreciation of the rights of man. But nobody, i suppose,
would think of constructing a durable republican State from any of these materials
without a judicious intermixture, a little
leaven or favoring, at least, of that high
instinct which puts the man above the brute and has
in the progress of ages evolved stability and juriaproduce from the

ized as a total departure from the legislation of Congress on the subject. He could not sanction that part of it particularly which enabled the Legislature to propose amendments to the constitution and submit them to the people. There was nothing like it in the past history of the country.

Mr. DAWES, (rep.) of Mass., reminded him that in reference to the admission of Nebraska Congress had added an amendment to the constitution and required the Legislature to accede to it.

Mr. BINGHAM SAW no parallel in the case.

Mr. DAWES asked him to say where the difference lay.

Mr. BINGHAM supposed he had said enough to show the difference.

Mr. Dawss-Does the gentleman decline to be show the difference.

Mr. Dawes—Does the gentleman decline to be interrupted?

Mr. BINGRAM—I decline to be repeating myself for the accommodation of the gentleman. The difference, however, is perfectly manifest. I have said before, and I do not intend to be diverted from it, that for myself I hold that no fundamental condition can be imposed on the restoration of any State into the Union or the admission of any State into the Union which does not stand within the limitations and conditions of the federal constitution. Mr. Bingham then proceeded to advocate the passage of the bill, with the third section stricken out, and predicted that members who voted for it would find themselves sustained by their constituents, and sustained hereafter by the action of the people of Alabama themselves. Referring to Mr. Eldridge's paraphrase of the speeches of himself and the Speaker on the Kansas question, he said he had undertaken to muthate those speeches; that the Lecompton constitution had nover emanated from the people of Kansas; that it contained the biasphemy that the ownership of slaves is higher than the constitution and the law, and that it should never be amended so as to affect the ownership of property in slaves. The cases of Alabama and Kansas were as wide apart as the poles, as the two points of the universe—heaven and leil.

Mr. Dawes said he would be very glad to vote for

the bill as it came from the committee, either with or without the third section, if he could see in it any guarantee of security to the people of Alabama. He had wanted to hear the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Bingham) on some doubts which he entertained, but the bill as it came from the committee, either with or without the third section, if he could see in it any guarantee of security to the people of Alabama. He had wanted to hear the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Bingham) on some doubts which he entertained, but he regretted that that gentleman seemed so satisfied with his own ideas that he was disposed to proclaim them as the lex scripts of the House, and to permit no man to get behind them as conclusive evidence of what the House should do. The proposition of the gentleman's colleague (Mr. Spalding) secured to the people of Alabama everything secured in the House and Senate the State passed from under the control of Congress, and that, whatever Congress might do afterwards, could no more be enforced within Alabama than it could be in Massachusetts. It was proposed by the substitute offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Spalding) to legislate so that everything which the constitution of Alabama secured to the people should be secured to them, except representation in these two branches. He confessed that he had undergone some change of views in the year that he had been here touching the idea of representation in these two branches. He had in times past struggled to secure representation even to single districts, as the armies of the United States cleared out the rebellious element; but he was satisfied now that instead of representation in Congress being the first thing, it should be the last thing. The State should be first bailt up, individual and personal rights secured, the damage wrought by the rebellion repaired, and stability and security made certain. Representation should follow, and grow out of that security, and not be the means of bringing about the security itself. It should be the last thing and not the first.

Mr. Strevens, (rep.) of Penn., rose at the Clerk's desk, and sald—Mr. Speaker, I desire to say a few words in

mations of the earth, by ourselves as well as others—we had a right to treat it as such, and to take it in or keep it out as we pleased. I said, then, that the constitution had nothing to do with it; but I would inform my learned friend from the bushes (laughter) that while i speak of being outside of the constitution I do not mean that the constitution does not recognize the law of nations, and the law of nations recognize the law of nations, and the law of nations recognize the right of the conquering power to do with conquered territory just as it pleases. I trust i shall hear nothing more after the explaintent seemed so ignorant of what I meant or of what they were talking about. Laughter). Now, Mr. Speaker, what are we to say with reference to Alabama? I contess to you that I am not altogether clear as to what we ought to do. As a just and wise body we have power under the constitution to admit new States, whether made out of fragments of a confederacy or out of fragments of a confederacy or out of fragments of a confederacy or out of fragments of a confederacy or out of fragments of a confederacy or out of fragments of confederacy or out of fragments of confederacy of the c

I think will be a complete shackle. But the proposition of the gentleman from Onlo (Mr. Bingham) to strike out the third section is all, I must say, in the interest of slavery. I have offered my proposition to try to protect, if possible, freedom against the wiles of the most wicked institution that God ever afflicted man with or that ever could exist through the invention of numan ingenuity. I will vote for no constitution which does not give universal and impartial suffrage, and bind, as far as human ligaments can bind, that provision forever, unalterable, incradicable in the instrument, so that, if ever taken out by the roots, it shall take with it every other fragment of the instrument itself, and send them back to act according to the provisions of a new law. new law.

Mr. BOUTWELL argued against the amendment

offered by Mr. Stevens, objecting to it that it would admit to suffrage women and children as well as men.

Mr. Stevens thought that that was not a fair con

men.

Mr. Stevens thought that that was not a fair construction of it; but he was willing to change the worls "citizens of the United States."

Mr. Boutwell said he did not see how that would help the matter.

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Mr. Soutwell replied that if he were offering the proposition it would be his business to perfect it; but as he was opposing it that was not his business. He went on to say that he was in favor of the bill, but was opposed to Mr. Stevens' amendment, which had been offered after the bill had been agreed upon in committee. That amendment would open up to every rebel in the State of Alabama who could not be convicted of treason the right to vote in all elections.

Mr. Eldbridg desired to ask Mr. Boutwell whether he would exclude men who were convicted but —

Mr. Boutwell declined to yield and went on to say that the conditions declared to be fundamental in the third section of the bill were in entire harmony with nine precedents in the government, and were within the rule laid down by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Bingham), to wit—that they were in harmony with the constitution and not in any sense outside of it or extraneous to it, and were conditions that were necessary for the security of the people of Alabama, if that State was to be admitted into the Union.

Mr. Miller, (rep.) of Pa., favored the admission of

that were necessary for the security of the people of Alabama, if that State was to be admitted into the Union.

Mr. Miller, (rep.) of Pa., favored the admission of Alabama under the constitution presented. He said that he was very anxious for the late rebellious States to have representation in Congress and be restored to all their political rights, and that military rule be dispensed with as soon as could be done with safety to the country. He approved of the constitution presented. The only barrier that seemed to be in the way was that the vote on the ratification of the constitution was not one-half of the registered vote, said to be 170,000. The whole number of votes polled, as reported, was 71,817; of which 70,812 were cast in favor and 1,005 against the ratification of the constitution, showing a majority of 68,807 in favor of its adoption, or 13,188 less than one-half the reported registered vote. He contended it was difficult to tell the number of qualified electors at the time the vote was taken, as many names were defectively registered and a large number had left the State and others had ded, and stated that the proofs showed that many were deprived of the right of voting. He argued also that there was nothing in the reconstruction laws to prevent its admission; that the act it made impartial when at least one-half voted; but this did not prevent Congress from passing a law admitting Alabama. As the law now stood a mere majority was sufficient. Why, then, put Alabama to the trouble and the government to the expense of going through the form of another election? Those who refused to vote had no reason to complain.

Mr. Farnsworth closed the debate. He said that

pense of going through the form of another election? Those who refused to vote had no reason to
complain.

Mr. Farnsworth closed the debate. He said that
the bill was opposed by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Dawes) and others on the
republican side because it would give the
State into the hands of the rebels, and
was opposed by the members on the democratic
side because it would put the State into the hands of
loyal men. Who would decide when doctors disagreed? He argued that to reject Alabama after she
had gone through the struggle would be only to encourage rebels and to discourage loyal men.

Mr. Myers (rep.) of Pa., suggested in this connection that he had the original letter sent in January
to Captain Francis Lyons, who had just been discharged from the Federal Army, notifying him to
quit the State of Alabama, adding that Captain
Lyons had remained, and a few months afterwards,
had been brutatly murdered. This was when
Andrew Johnson had begun to inspire rebels with
fresh courage and when the whole power of the
State was being placed by him in the hands of disloyal men.

Mr. Farnsworth resumed, and said that he had

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Mr. Farnsworth resumed, and said that he had had letter upon letter beseeching Congress not to turn back Alabama, but to spare the loyal people the mortification, humiliation and insult which they would be obliged to face. He was sorry to hear the gentleman from Pennsylvania speak about the bill violating the Enabling act.

Mr. Stevens said he had made no such statement; for he had no doubt at all of the power of Congress to pass the bill.

Mr. Farnsworth having resumed his seat, the House proceeded to vote upon the various propositions.

The amendment was rejected without a division. The question then recurred on the substitu

SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, That the Govern at any time after be shall have qualified and entered upon discharge of the duties of his office, may, by proclamatic convene the Legislature chosen at said election; the Legislature by said constitution which may not be in c flict with the constitution and laws of the Uni States. And the Legislature is hereby further empoweres submit said constitution to the qualified electors of Alaba for ratification at such time or times as it may design And said Legislature is also empowered by a majority vote each House to submit the said constitution, as framed by Convention, with or without amendments proposed by the Legislature; and if amendments be proposed by the Legislature; they shall be voted upon separately and not connection with the constitution as it came from Convention.

ture, they shall be voted upon separately and not in connection with the constitution as it came from the Convention.

SEC. 2, And be it further enacted, That whenever the people by a majority vote of the electors of Alabama qualified under the act of Congress of March 23, 1867, to vote for delegates to form a constitution, and actually voting on said ratineasion, shall have ratified a constitution submitted as aforesaid, and the Legislature of the proposed State organization shall have adopted the amendment to the constitution of the United States proposed by the Thirty-ninth Congress, and known as article fourteen, the constitution Alabama may be presented to Congress for its approval.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the District Commanders shall furnish all necessary aid in enforcing this act and the act of March 2, 1897, entitled "An act to provide for more efficient government for the rebel States," and the acts supplemental to and amendatory thereof shall remain in full force in Alabama, except as monified by this act, until Alabama shall be restored to representation in Congress.

The vota was taken by year and pays, and resulted.

The vote was taken by yeas and nays, and resulted.

The vote was taken by yeas and nays, and resulted, yeas 77, nays 54, as follows:—
YEAR—Messrs. Ames, Anderson, Ashley of Nevada, Ashley of Ohlo, Baker, Baldwin, Banks, Beatty, Benjamin, Bromwell, Broomall, Gunchill, Clarke, Coburn, Cook, Covode, Callom, Dawes, Dison, Bodge, Driggs, Eckley, Eggleston, Eliot, Ferris, Ferry, Halsey, Hawkins, Hil, Hopkins, Hunter, Ingersoll, Judia, Julian, Keisey, Ketcham, Koontz, Ingersoll, Judia, Julian, Keisey, Ketcham, Koontz, Lalin, Lawrence of Chio, Loan, Loughridge, Maynard, McCling, Mercur, Moore, Moothead, Morrell, Mulins, Myers, Nunn, O'Neil, Orth, Biochead, Morrell, Mulins, Myers, Nunn, O'Neil, Orth, Miller, Mayner, Mayner, Charles, Mayner, Charles, Mayner, Charles, Mayner, Mayner, Mayor, Messrs, Mayner, Messrs, Andres, Arnell, Balley, Beaman, Beck, Chio, Wilson of Pa., Wilson of Iowa, Wilson of Ohlo, Wilson of Pa., Woodbridge of Vt.—77.
Naya-Messrs, Adams, Arnell, Balley, Beaman, Beck, Bigham, Blaice, Boutwell, Brooks, Buckland, Burr, Cary, Eldridge, Farnsworth, Fields, Fox, Glossbrenner, Gollady, Gravely, Haight, Holman, Hubbard of Conn., Huburd, Humphrey, Johnson, Jones, Kerr, Knott, Lincoin, Mallory, Warshall, Miller, Mungen, Newcomb, Niblack, Nicholson, Paine, Perham, Feters, File, Plants, Pruyn, Ross, Sigreaves, Taber, Taylor, Thomas, Trimble of Tena, Trimble of Ky, Van Auken, Van Trump, Van Wyck, Windom, Woodward-54.

So the substitute was adopted.

Van Auken, Van Trump, Van Wyck, Windom, Woodward-M.

So the substitute was adopted.

The next question was ordering the preamble to be engrossed, and the House refused to order it. So the preamble was rejected. The final vote was on the passage of the bill.

The bil was passed—yeas 102, nays 29—a strict party vote, Stevens, of Pa., voting with the majority, and Williams, of Pa., not voting at all.

On motion of Mr. Spalding, the title of the bill was amended so as to read "A bill to provide for a temporary and provisional government in Alabama."

THE NEW CONFERENCE COMMITTER ON THE TAX BILL.

A new conference committee was ordered on the disagreeing vote on the bill to exempt certain manufactures from tax, and Messrs. Schenck, Brooks and Perry were appointed on the part of the House. Ferry were appointed on the part of the Ho PROPOSED RAILROAD BETWEEN WASHING

Mr. CAKE, (rep.) of Pa., introduced a bill to authorize the building of a railroad from washington to the Schuyikili river, Pennsylvania. Referred to the Committee on Roads and Camals.

The House at six o'clock adjourned.

BUSINESS PROSTRATION IN BOSTON. [From the Evening Telegram of yesterday.]

Boston, March 28, 1868. There has never been such a general depression usiness in Boston as now. Some twelve hundred mechanics, who had managed to get through the vinter hoping for a spring revival of busine winter hoping for a spring revival of business, have become thoroughly discouraged and will leave for california next week. The late discharges of work-men from the Navy Yard have caused considerable surfering, and a great number of those bound for California are among those once employed by the